

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 3 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

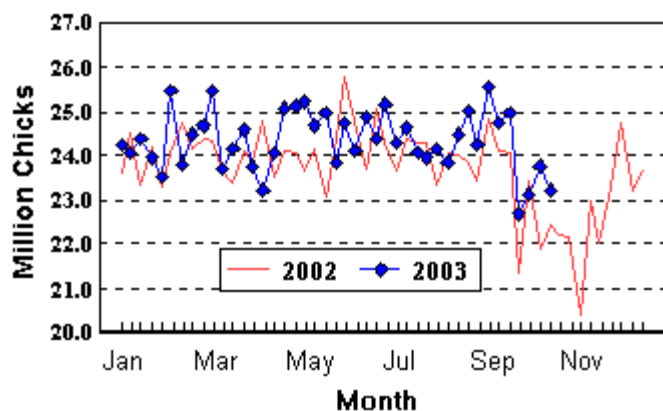
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 23.2 million during the week ending October 25, 2003. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week in 2002, but down 2 percent from the revised previous week, and included 2.6 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through October 25, 2003 were 1.05 billion, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 23.9 million, up 3 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, but down 4 percent from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 2.9 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.9 percent.

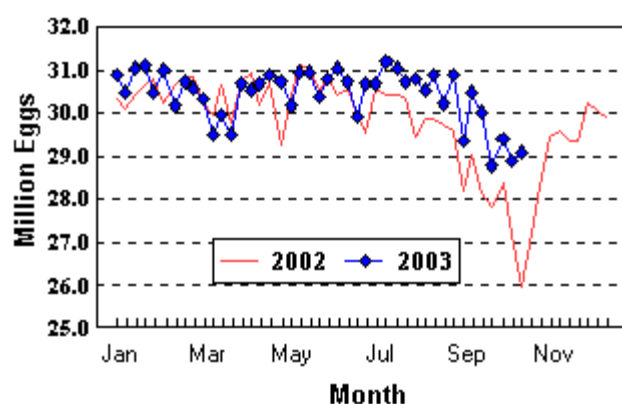
Arkansas hatcheries set 29.1 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending October 25, 2003, up 12 percent from the same period last year, and up 1 percent from the previous week.

Week Ending	NET PLACEMENTS			CHICKS HATCHED			EGGS SET		
	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change
	<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>		
Sep. 20	24,113	24,721	103	24,474	24,763	101	29,050	30,458	105
Sep. 27	24,044	24,992	104	24,459	25,337	104	28,177	30,013	107
Oct. 4	21,347	22,702	106	23,261	24,220	104	27,810	28,806	104
Oct. 11	23,404	23,157	99	24,017	25,229	105	28,385	29,386	104
Oct. 18	21,930	23,755	108	23,275	24,796	107	27,187	28,862	106
Oct. 25	22,466	23,230	103	23,102	23,882	103	25,951	29,106	112

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2002-2003



EGGS SET, 2002 - 2003



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2003

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	04-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct	25-Oct		20-Sep	27-Sep	04-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct	25-Oct	
Alabama	28,577 *	28,048	28,282 *	26,822	105	21,970	21,676	20,614	20,421	20,649 *	21,380	102
ARKANSAS	28,806	29,386	28,862	29,106	112	24,721	24,992	22,702	23,157	23,755 *	23,230	103
Delaware	3,670	3,529	3,531	3,233	105	4,644	4,831	4,439	4,553	4,189	4,359	94
Florida	1,369	1,359	1,365	1,353	59	1,586	1,651	1,605	1,505 *	1,876 *	1,506	75
Georgia	30,719 *	32,016	29,461	28,898	106	25,369	24,677	24,145	24,338 *	24,134 *	24,391	102
Kentucky	6,147 *	6,626	5,370 *	6,025	106	5,475	5,273	4,933	5,553	5,488 *	5,352	97
Maryland	8,417 *	8,502	8,005	7,808	88	6,614	5,378	5,563	5,232	6,308	5,727	98
Mississippi	17,260 *	17,910	16,983	17,287	107	15,577	15,904	15,221	14,673	14,526 *	14,925	103
N. Carolina	16,296 *	15,940	16,677	17,291	101	13,226	13,000	13,156	12,575	13,790	13,225	94
Oklahoma	6,056	5,864	6,037 *	6,505	122	4,273	4,574	5,390	5,769	4,197 *	3,966	127
Pennsylvania	3,679	3,451 *	3,457 *	3,582	108	2,706	2,691	2,635	2,555 *	2,521 *	2,616	96
S. Carolina	4,578	4,080	3,907	4,206	100	4,607	3,827	4,265	4,188	3,685	4,040	97
Texas	14,179 *	14,217	12,863	12,978	104	12,165	12,193	11,670	10,809	11,954	11,758	103
Virginia	5,713	6,360	6,378	6,670	119	4,979	5,231	4,696	4,696	5,069	4,415	98
CA, LA, MO, IN, WV	19,165 *	19,095 *	18,915 *	18,644	103	17,252	17,225	18,166	17,700 *	18,107 *	17,738	104
Total 2003	194,631 *	196,383 *	190,093 *	190,408		165,164	163,123	159,200	157,724 *	160,248 *	158,628	
Total 2002	193,083	192,080	185,654	181,106		165,465	165,235	155,770	154,082	155,782	157,001	
%Prev. Year	101	102	102	105		100	99	102	102	103	101	
Approximate Marketing Date 2003.....						08-Nov	15-Nov	22-Nov	29-Nov	06-Dec	13-Dec	

* Revised. 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 5 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 190 million eggs during the week ending October 25, 2003. This was up 5 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 1 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 159 million chicks for meat production during the week ending October 25, 2003. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through October 25, 2003 were 7.19 billion, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.